cers which took such a decision and why has a separate procedure has been adopted for recommendations based on indigenous technology development when none of the other recommendations of the Kelkar Committee has been referred to any such committee?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, the Kelkar Committee's recommendations are not mandatory on the Government and the Government has got the power to appoint another commitee to verify whether these are manufactured with the indigenous R & D and they are verifying it. If it is correct, we will certainly give exemption.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Dr. Mahishi.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, the Minister's answer is not at all satisfactory. When you appoint a high-level Committee, naturally, the recommendations of that Committee have to be considered. To find out a new technology for a new drug requires an investment of about Rs. 100 crores and in the foreign countries it is a continuous process and it is going on. In our country, it is very rarely that the private companies or the other people are able to invest this much. But when we are investing something and the technology is also being found out and the Kelkar Committee also has recommended seven drugs, what is the point in not putting them out of the control list also and giving them exemption? These incentives have got to be given for R&D in our country so that new technology can be developed in our country. Therefore, the Ministry has to adopt a continuous and consistent policy, whether it is the Price Control Order of 1979 or the Price Control Order of 1989, and what is being done in a period of ten years exactly to find out indigenous technology, the Ministry must be able to tell us.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, I entirely agree with the honourable Member. If they produce drugs with indigenous R& D, certainly they will get exemption for five years and after five years only we will control the price. I have placed the orders on the Table of the House and we are taking a decision as early as possible on the basis of these facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 184.

Wireless|Radio Telephone System in remote villages

*184. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect the remote villages by wireless| radio telephone system;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when the same will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHR GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) In 1982-83 under a Pilot Project, some Multi Access Radio Systems were imported for field trial in the country. Now ITI and GCEL are producing these systems after technology transfer and the supply has commenced from 1988-89. The number of Long Distance Public Telephones under MARR opened as on 31.3.1989 are 424. Recently, TRC has developed a low capacity system 2|15 which is under field trial.

(c) It is proposed to connect remote villages by 2000AD subject to availability of equipment and resources.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Sir, it is mentioned in the statement that under a Pilot Project, some Multi Access Radio Systems were imported for field trials in the country. I would like to know from the honourable Member from which country these were imported, how many numbers have been imported, how much

foreign exchange is being spent on them, what their performance is in the field trials, in which parts of the country the field trials are taking and what the results thereof are.

संचार मंत्री (श्री वीर बहादुर सिंह) : मान्यवर, अभी पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के अन्दर थोड़े से मंगाये गये हैं । तीन सौ शुरू में मंगाये गये थे और उसके बाद जो हमारी अपनी टेक्नोलाजी थी, जो हमने बाहर से ली और आई०टी०आई० के द्वारा बनी, उससे काम कर रहे हैं, दूसरे 308 और मंगाये गये और थोड़ी मात्रा में मंगा करके एक्सपेरिमेंटल आधार पर काम कर रहे हैं, बहुत ज्यादा नहीं कर रहे हैं । हमारे देश में जो टोटल लगा, कुल चल रहा है, 1251 स्थलों में शुरू किया है जिसमें से 424 स्थलों में लग चुका है ।

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Sir, he has not answered my question from which country they are being imported.

श्री वीर बहादुर सिंह : जो आयात है यह जापान की कौकसाई कम्पनी है जिससे हमारा टेक्नीकल कोलेबोरेशन आई०टी०आई० के द्वारा हुआ है और बहुत थोड़ा सा इटली का है जिसका कोलेबोरेशन गुजरात की जी०सी०आई०एल० कम्पनी है उसके द्वारा हुआ है ।

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Sir, ITI and GCEL are importing some technology. Are they importing from the some countries the same technology or are they importing some other equipment? According to the statement, ITI and GCEL have started producing them since 1982-83. What is the cost of production indigenously? Is it cheaper than the import? What is the saving of foreign exchange in this regard? It is also mentioned in the hon. Minister's statement that TRC has developed a low capacity system 2|15 which is under field trial. How long will this continue and in which part of the country these trials are taking place? It is also stated that it is proposed to connect remote villages by 2000 AD subject to availability of equipment and resources. What are the remote villages that are identified by the Government. It shows that full equipment and resources are not available and we are not going to reach the target by 2000 AD and we are not going to connect all the remote villages.

I would like to seek the comments of the Government in this regard.

श्री वीर बहादुर सिंह : मान्यवर, यह प्रयास किया जा रहा है कि जो हमारे गांव हैं उनको हम टेलीफोन से जोड़ें क्योंकि जब तक हम उनको टेलीफोन से नहीं जोड़ते हैं तब तक सही मायनों में गांवों का विकास जिस तरह से होना चाहिये उस तरह से नहीं हो सकता । इसलिये उनकी तरफ हमें काम करना है । यह जो टेक्नालोजी हमने ली है तो हम यह चाहते हैं कि इसको खुद अपनी बनाकर हम गांवों को टेलीफोन से जोड़ें । लेकिन कभी कभी अरजेंट मैटर आ गये, जैसे पंजाब में आवश्यकता पड़ गई, नार्थ-ईस्ट में आवश्यकता पड़ गई इसलिये हमने थोड़ा सा इसको मंगाया है जल्दी से काम करने के लिये । हमारा यह प्रयास है कि जो हमारी टैक्नालाजी है उसके द्वारा हम इस काम को करें ताकि विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च न हो । दूसरा, यह योजना है कि 2000 तक गांवों को इससे जोड़ा जाय । इसके लिये प्रयास किया जा रहा है । हमारा यह प्रयास है कि जो योजना हमने बनाई है, आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में और नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो हमारे देश के गांव हैं, हमारे देश में लगभग 6 लाख गांव हैं और उनमें से ज्यादातर दूरदराज के गांव हैं और उनको जोड़ने के लिये हमें काफी काम करना पड़ेगा, प्रयास करना पड़ेगा । जब तक हम इन गांवों को जोड़ने के लिये स्कीमें नहीं बनायेंगे तब तक यह काम नहीं हो सकता । इसलिये हमने 2000 ईस्वी तक के लिये स्कीमें बनाई हैं और इसके अन्तर्गत 2000 तक हम संसाधन इकट्ठा करके इन गांवों को इससे जोड़ेंगे ।

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the scheme for getting all the telephones to

all the villages apart from the Radio Telephone System which you have imported or are planning to import--whether you have considered directly linking them by satellite which might turn out to be cheaper. No. 2, there is another system which I have heard of. That is the system of balloons. There are balloon barrages, a system of transmitting to remote areas. Has this been considered by the Ministry and is that system cheaper?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, यह बैलून का मामला बहुत खतरनाक है । गुप्ता जी स्वयं लटक कर रह गये थे ।...(व्यवधान)... मैंने कहा कि गुप्ता जी स्वयं लटक कर रह गये थे, बड़ी मुश्किल से नीचे लाया गया था ।

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: We have a plan to provide LDPT by 2000 AD. The technology which has been transferred is MARR. Recently TRC has developed a low capacity system 2|15. Through these two systems, without wire, we can contact the base station in the exchange. The distance will be 30 kms. Therefore, we have planned the rural telecom netwok through the Radio Relay System and MARR, from Japan. The technology has been transferred. For trial basis we have some euipment. But we are developing indigenously after the technology transfer. But the TRC product is an indigenously developed product. With this we hope, on the basis of the equipment available which will be produced indigenously, that we will be able to provide at least the hexagonal identified by the department by 2000 AD.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: My question has not been answered. My pointed question was whether the satellite system has been considered by the Government, whether that system is cheaper and whether the balloon barrage system by which you can reach remote villages has been considered by the Government or has not been considered by the Government.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: The communication system is from wire technology for rural areas. The radio system which we have developed is less costly than the satellite communication. The satellite communication system is for long distances, not for short distances.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: The thrust of the supplementaries is we are spending crores of rupees on development of business communication and entertainment communication in big cities. I think so long as the physical line system continues, faults are inevitable. MARR technology is now available. So the only emphasis required for which the Minister has given an assurance is connecting the villages rapidly. If you continue to provide telephone system to villages by physical line system, it is impossible, because faults will be inevitable. In cities for faults in physical lines there are people to repair them. So if you want to connect villages, as has been assured by the Minister, you cannot connect them by physical line system. You say it is very expensive to switch over to MARR system. Therefore, my suggestion is if we really are serious and keen on connecting villages, then we have to give up this physical line system. Therefore, I want an assurance from the honourable Minister that no village in India will be without a communication point by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: That is exactly the technology we have developed. Without wire we can contact a base station with the radio relay system. This has no physical line. We are going to do that. My honourable friend did not follow my answer. Here the physical line will be costlier and there is no reliability of the physical line. Therefore, we have developed this technology based on MARR as well as 2|15 radio system which will be cheaper than the physical line which is available today.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: For the information of the honourable Minister may I tell him that in the whole of tribal areas there are wire telephones installed in the post offices

and even these wire telephones work only in election time and once election season is over, these telephones do not work. Many people of these areas have submitted memoranda about the difficulties they are facing in the absence of telephones in the tribal areas and hill areas. I want a categorical assurance from the honourable Minister that he will consider this problem seriously on a priority basis and see that telephone communication is established in these areas on a permanent basis.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: There are physical lines in the rural areas and their difficulties will be looked into; steps will be taken for the repair of the lines. It is to overcome these difficulties that we have developed this new technology and with that there will be no trouble for the people.

Shoe complex and second tannery at Bhopal

*185. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:† SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any letter of intent has been issued for a shoe complex and second tannery to be located at Bhopal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the name of the company, capacity, projected outlay etc.;

(c) whether any import of technology is involved; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No letter of intent has been issued for a shoe complex and tannery at Bhopal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: I would like to know whether applications have been received for putting up shoe complexes either export oriented units or units for indigenous production and sale in Madhya Pradesh or elsewhere.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have received applications. We have cleared two applications: one for leather finishing unit at Dewas in Madhya Pradesh and one footwear unit at Raisan. This is a 100 per cent export oriented unit by NRIs.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Sir, my second supplementary is, has the Industry Ministry prepared any plan for the export potential of leather and leather manufactured goods and when is this NRI unit in Dewas likely to go into production and what is the projected export from this unit and is there any overall plan for leather exports?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, this letter of intent has been given very recently. One hundred per cent production they have to export to foreign countries. They are having collaboration with the best Italian company.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is this for Bhopal or Dewas?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Dewas, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): For two places, Sir, one at Mandi Deep and the other at another place, not actually Bhopal.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Dewas and Raisan, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the meaning of the best Italian company?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kamal Morarka.